

**A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR POSTAGE METER ACCOUNTING UTILIZING
A WEB BROWSER IN A POSTAL OR SHIPPING SYSTEM**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The invention is a method and system for postage meter cost accounting
5 using a web browser based postal mail shipping system. The data processing systems
comprise a web site for a provider server and a client node in communication with the
provider server. The web site further comprises web pages and script functionality for
linking with a meter driver resident in a meter located at the client node, but callable by
the client node under the control of the script functionality for allowing the script at the
client node to link with the meter by utilizing the meter driver. The method is initiated by
calling a web site from the caller node by utilizing communications link, which includes a
browser for accessing the web site. The client node requests that a meter activation
routine be activated. Cost accounting data is stored in a cost accounting meter table on
a database server. User selects an account from the cost accounting table, mail
transactions are performed, and the cost accounting table is updated with the
transaction information.